**Violence and cheating with foreign tourists**

†2990.SHRI P.K.MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign Tourists who visited India during the last three years;

(b) the number of incidents of violence and cheating that have occurred with foreign tourists during these years; and

(c) the States where these incidents happened and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Tourist arrivals during the year 2000 and 2001 and 2002 are 2.65 million, 2.54 million and 2.36 million respectively. However, during October 2002 - July 2003, the growth rate of arrival has been 13.4%.

(b) During the last three years 89 complaints were received which are detailed below:

| Year | No. of Complaints received |
|---|---|
| 2000 | 28 |
| 2001 | 25 |
| 2002 | 36 |

(c) These incidents mainly happened in the States where foreign tourists visit like National Capital Territory of Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Goa, Himachal Pradesh etc. The complaints are forwarded to the various agencies including the police for investigation and redressal which includes legal action wheresoever requried. Till December 2002 81 cases were settled.

**Popularity for sea travel**

2991.SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sea travel is becoming increasingly popular among tourists, both domestic and overseas; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.